

Serial number: 10/748,114
First Applicant: Carlos Vonderwalde
Examiner: Melanie Ruano Tyson
Response to Office Action dated: September 19, 2007

Filing date: December 29, 2003
Attorney Docket: 28779
Group Art Unit: 3731

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified patent application in view of the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 66-70, 75 and 76 are pending in this application. Claims 66-70, 75 and 76 have been allowed. Claims 66-70 have been objected to. By this amendment, Claims 66-70 have been amended in line with the Examiner's suggestions.

Amendments to the Claims

In the letter of September 19, 2007, the Examiner stated that some of the language of claim 66 is unclear. In order to clarify the language Applicant has added "*...one of said bendable...*" and also rewritten the last lines of the claim to read "*...wherein a said part of an end of said first ring-shaped wall section folded over said first cover end is a maxima of an undulation of said wire loop*" in line with the Examiner's suggestion.

Applicant has noticed that claim 66 which is directed to stent assemblies having a first ring-shaped wall section that defines the first stent end inadvertently included limitations (labeled 'f') relating to the second stent end that should have been found in claim 67. Applicant has removed the description of the second stent end from claim 66 and amended claim 67 to describe embodiments in which the second stent end comprises a second ring-shaped wall section.

In the letter of September 19, 2007, the Examiner stated that claims 68 and 69 imply that the stent cover is in contact with the entire inner surface of the stent body. Applicant has amended claim 68 by the addition of the term "*...at least a portion...*" to clarify that in embodiments that fall within the scope of claim 68, the stent cover may contact a portion of

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the inner surface of the stent body and does not necessarily contact the entire inner surface of the stent body. Similarly, Applicant has amended claim 69 by the addition of the term "...*at least a portion...*" to clarify that in embodiments that fall within the scope of claim 69, the stent cover may contact a portion of the outer surface of the stent body and does not necessarily contact the entire outer surface of the stent body.

In the letter of September 19, 2007, the Examiner stated that in claim 70 the term 'bendable' was missing. Applicant has amended claim 70 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion.

In the letter of September 19, 2007, the Examiner stated that the reference numerals 'e', 'f' and 'd' of claim 66 and 67 appeared in a confusing order. Applicant has amended the reference numerals in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has allowed claims 66-70, 75 and 76. Applicant respectfully urges that claims 66-70, 75 and 76 are now in allowable condition, and respectfully requests that an early Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully Submitted,



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